**MacOS 9.0**

**History**

Mac OS 9, the last major revision of the classic Mac OS, was released on October 23, 1999. It is generally a steady evolution from Mac OS 8. Early development releases of Mac OS 9 were numbered 8.7.

**Function and features**

Mac OS 9 added improved support for AirPort wireless networking. It introduced an early implementation of multi-user support. Though not a true multi-user operating system, Mac OS 9 does allow multiple desktop users to have their own data and system settings. An improved Sherlock search engine added several new search plug-ins. Mac OS 9 also provides a much improved memory implementation and management. AppleScript was improved to allow TCP/IP and networking control. Mac OS 9 also makes the first use of the centralized Apple Software Update to find and install OS and hardware updates.

Other new features included its on-the-fly file encryption software with code signing and Keychain technologies, Remote Networking and File Server packages, and much improved list of USB drivers.

Mac OS 9 also added some transitional technologies to help application developers adopt some Mac OS X features before the introduction of the new OS to the public, to help ease the transition. These included new APIs for the file system and the bundling of the Carbon library that apps could link against instead of the traditional API libraries—apps that were adapted to do this could be run natively on Mac OS X as well. Other changes were made beginning with the Mac OS 9.1 update to allow it to be launched in the Classic Environment within Mac OS X.

**Advantages**

1. Simple but powerful user interface: Both macOS and Windows have easy-to-use graphical user interface or GUI. But OS X offers a more straightforward approach to computing. Those who are accustomed with the GUI of iOS found in iPhone and iPad will find macOS somewhat familiar.

2. Fewer viruses and other security issues: One of the advantages of macOS is that it is considerably safer than Windows. Of course, some Apple loyalists would argue that Macs are completely invincible from viruses or malware. This is no longer true.

3. Seamless integration between OS and hardware: Apple is both a software developer and a device manufacturer. This means that they have optimised the macOS to work seamlessly with all of the hardware components of a Mac device. It also ensures that all hardware components work hand-in-hand.

4. Comes preloaded with productivity apps: Standard Windows OS usually does not come with Microsoft Office Suite. Both are sold separately most of the time. In addition, new Windows-based laptop and desktop computers come with random software or apps that merely bloat the entire system and external storage.

5. Effective and unparalleled multitasking feature: Multitasking is another notable advantage of macOS. Mac computers have hardware specifications designed for multitasking. And because macOS integrates seamlessly with Mac hardware components, the overall operation is smooth and responsive.

6. Integration with other Apple products: One of the strengths of Apple is that most of the products under the brand are completely integrated. The iPhone or iPad works best with a Mac computer. This advantage of macOS is exclusive for Apple users—or those individuals with several Apple devices.

**Disadvantages**

1. Mac computers are considerably expensive: The fact remains that Apple sells expensive computers whether it is the new MacBook Pro with Retina or a Mac Mini. This is more noticeable when comparing the price point of Mac computers with their Windows counterpart.

2. Inflexible when it comes to hardware upgrades: A standard Mac computer cannot be upgraded easily because most of its hardware components are integrated both at a design and engineering levels. This is a macOS disadvantage that is unacceptable for hobbyists.

3. Lack of game titles and advanced gaming experience: There are more game titles available for Windows than in macOS. This is another noteworthy disadvantage of macOS. Some titles from independent producers that have gained large following are unavailable for Mac computers.